

EPA WEEKLY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
Friday, September 9, 2016 – Sunday, September 18, 2016

Priorities

Executive Summary and Implementation Update

This week, EPA took action to add 18 hazardous waste sites to the Superfund program's National Priorities List (NPL). These sites have contamination from a variety of sources, including manufacturing, mining, battery recycling and dry cleaning. EPA adds sites to the NPL when mismanagement of contamination threatens public health and the environment. EPA typically initiates Superfund involvement at a site because states, tribes or citizens ask for the agency's help. The agency may also find contamination during its own investigations.

These sites can threaten the health of entire communities and their surrounding ecosystems. Some groups of people, such as children, pregnant women and the elderly, may be at particular risk. During environmental emergencies, health threats — poisoning, injuries from fires and explosions — are often urgent and immediate. At other sites, health effects such as cancer and birth defects may be more long term. Superfund cleans up or isolates contamination, keeping it away from people and the environment. Ecosystems at Superfund sites can also be harmed, primarily in two ways. First, contaminants can accumulate in plants and animals at abnormally high concentrations, reducing survival and growth rates. This accumulation can alter the composition of species in an area, seriously damage or destroy the ecosystem, and render fish, shellfish, game and plants inedible. Second, activities at some sites have resulted in destruction of vegetation and topsoil. The lack of plants means there is nothing to mitigate stormwater runoff or provide wildlife habitat.

For all Superfund sites, EPA tests air, water and soil to determine which hazardous substances are present and whether they pose a threat to human health, the environment or both. Where risks greater than acceptable levels exist to public health or the environment, EPA develops and executes plans to clean up contamination.

The following 10 sites have been added to the NPL:

- Anaconda Aluminum Co. Columbia Falls Reduction Plant in Columbia Falls, MT
- Argonaut Mine in Jackson, CA
- Bonita Peak Mining District in San Juan County, CO
- Dorado Ground Water Contamination in Dorado, PR
- Eldorado Chemical Co. Inc. in Live Oak, TX
- North 25th St. Glass and Zinc in Clarksburg, WV
- SBA Shipyard in Jennings, LA
- Valley Pike VOCs in Riverside, OH
- Wappinger Creek in Dutchess County, NY
- West Vermont Drinking Water Contamination in Indianapolis, IN

The following 8 sites have been proposed for addition to the NPL:

- Anaconda Copper Mine in Yerington, NV
- The Battery Recycling Company in Bo. Cambalache, PR
- Former Custom Cleaners in Memphis, TN
- Highway 18 Ground Water in Kermit, TX
- Microfab Inc (Former) in Amesbury, MA
- Old HWY 275 and N 288th Street in Valley, NE
- Post and Lumber Preserving Co. Inc. in Quincy, FL
- Sant-Gobain Performance Plastics in Village of Hoosick Falls, NY

Clean Power Plan and President's Climate Action Plan

During the reporting period of September 9 – September 18, Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation Janet McCabe and Associate Assistant Administrator for Climate and Senior Counsel for Air and Radiation Joseph Goffman will continue to meet with and speak to stakeholders regarding the Climate Action Plan.

- On September 9, Acting Assistant Administrator McCabe will speak to the Business Council for Sustainable Energy's Board meeting about the Clean Power Plan. Closed Press, Washington, DC.
- On September 9, Associate Assistant Administrator Goffman will meet with representatives from the American Petroleum Institute on methane. Closed Press, Washington, DC.
- On September 10, Acting Assistant Administrator McCabe will provide an air program update at the Kokomo, Indiana Creation Care Affiliate of Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light. Open Press, Kokomo, IN.
- On September 12, Acting Assistant Administrator McCabe will speak to the Climate Action Campaign at their 2016 retreat to talk about EPA's climate initiatives. Closed Press, Washington, DC.
- On September 13, Acting Assistant Administrator McCabe will speak about the Clean Power Plan at a workshop on power sector trends in the Eastern Interconnect sponsored by the Great Plains Institute, Bipartisan Policy Center, and Nicholas Institute. Open Press, Atlanta, GA.

Principal Schedules

During the reporting period of September 9 – September 18, Administrator Gina McCarthy is scheduled to participate in the following events:

- On September 8-9, Administrator McCarthy, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for the Office of International and Tribal Affairs Jane Nishida and Director of the American Indian Environmental Office JoAnn Chase will travel to Mérida, Mexico to represent the United States in the 23rd Regular Session of the Council of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation (CEC) of North America hosted by Rafael Pacchiano Alamán, Mexico's Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources. Canada's Environment and Climate Change Minister Catherine McKenna will also participate. This year's session will focus on the role of youth within the work of the CEC, in particular, on ecosystems and climate change, and supporting sustainable communities.

Open and Closed Press, Mérida, Mexico.

- On September 13, Administrator McCarthy will visit EPA's Region 7 offices in Lenexa, KS. She will participate in a series of internal meetings, and deliver remarks to approximately 300 employees at an All Hands Meeting. Closed Press, Lenexa, KS.
- On September 13, Administrator McCarthy will visit Ripple Glass where she will meet with the staff and owners to discuss their robust glass collecting and recycling program which grew out of an EPA grant. She will also tour their multi-million dollar glass processing facility. Open Press, Kansas City, MO.
- On September 13, Administrator McCarthy will meet with senior leaders of the NFL Kansas City Chiefs to hear progress on the Extra Yard for the Environment program. Launched in 2013, the program is designed to devise and implement new green policies for the Chiefs while raising awareness of green efforts at Arrowhead Stadium. Administrator McCarthy may also be offered a tour of the facility and to participate in a meet and greet with athletes who participate in the environmental program. Closed Press, Kansas City, MO.
- On September 14, Administrator McCarthy will visit EPA's National Vehicle and Fuel Emissions Laboratory in Ann Arbor, MI. She will participate in a series of internal meetings, and deliver remarks to approximately 300 employees at an All Hands Meeting. She will also tour the newly completed Heavy-Duty Chassis test lab. Closed Press, Ann Arbor, MI.
- On September 14, Administrator McCarthy will visit NSF International's office where she will meet staff to thank them for their partnership in Flint, certifying water filters, and discuss other areas where NSF works with EPA. She will also tour their product testing and certification labs. Closed Press, Ann Arbor, MI.
- On September 15, Administrator McCarthy will visit EPA's National Risk Management Research Laboratory in Cincinnati, OH. She will participate in a series of internal meetings, and deliver remarks to approximately 300 Cincinnati area employees at an All Hands Meeting. Closed Press, Cincinnati, OH.
- On September 15, Administrator McCarthy will meet the North American leadership of Proctor and Gamble. They will discuss Proctor and Gamble's ongoing sustainability and environmental stewardship initiatives, the TSCA reform act, and areas of partnership. She will tour their interactive demo room. Closed Press, Cincinnati, OH.
- On September 15, Administrator McCarthy will participate in a roundtable discussion with 15-20 children's health experts and public health officials hosted by Cincinnati Children's Hospital and the Pediatric Environmental Health and Lead Clinic, the local PEHSU satellite office. The discussion will be focused around the question of, "How EPA and local partners can work together to better children's health?" Closed Press, Cincinnati, OH.
- On September 16, Administrator McCarthy provide welcoming remarks at a meeting between senior EPA officials and representatives from Governor's offices. Topics will include EPA's national drinking water action plan, lead and copper rule, TSCA reform implementation, worker protection standard, and Volkswagen partial settlement. Closed Press, Washington, DC.
- On September 16, Administrator McCarthy will meet with Erik Solheim, Executive

Director United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to sign a five year extension of the EPA-UNEP Memorandum of Understanding and discuss ongoing collaboration between the two organizations. Closed Press, Washington, DC.

During the reporting period of September 9 – September 18, Acting Deputy Administrator Stan Meiburg will attend the following:

- On September 12, Acting Deputy Administrator Meiburg and Region 9 Acting Administrator Alexis Strauss will meet with officials from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, tour the Port of Oakland, and meet with community leaders and officials from the Oakland Army Base regarding pollution controls and redevelopment. Closed Press, Oakland, CA.
- On September 13, Acting Deputy Administrator Meiburg will visit EPA's Region 9 office. He will participate in a series of internal meetings, and provide remarks at the office's annual awards ceremony. Closed Press, San Francisco, CA.
- On September 14, Acting Deputy Administrator Meiburg and Region 7 Acting Administrator Mark Hague will tour the Argentine neighborhood in Kansas City, KS. They will view the former Kansas City Structural Steel site, which operated as a smelter and steel manufacturing plant before undergoing a CERCLA removal action and cleanup, and is now being developed into a Walmart Neighborhood Market to transform an urban "food desert" into a commercial center. They will next meet with officials from the Kansas Department of Health & Environment and community leaders to discuss the importance of community participation in resolving air quality questions, as they visit the EPA's Kansas City Village Green Project. To end their Argentine neighborhood tour, Acting Deputy Administrator Meiburg and Region 9 Administrator Hague will tour the BNSF Railyard, and meet with representatives from BNSF to discuss the importance of EPA's ports initiative and other efforts to reduce air pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions. Closed Press, Kansas City, KS.
- On September 15, Acting Deputy Meiburg will visit EPA's Region 7 office. He will participate in a variety of internal meetings. Closed Press, Lenexa, KS.

On September 8-9, Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization Mustafa Ali will participate at the International Environmental Youth Symposium. Open Press, Atlanta, GA.

On September 9, Region 4 Acting Administrator Anne Heard will deliver opening remarks at the 3rd Annual International Youth Symposium. Acting Regional Administrator Heard will focus her remarks on the influence the next generation has on directing and integrating environmental work into the social, economic, and scientific landscape of the world. Open Press, Atlanta, GA.

On September 9, Principal Deputy Administrator for Water Joel Beauvais will be meeting with residents in California's San Joaquin Valley to discuss drinking water challenges in the area. Open Press, Seville, CA and East Porterville, CA.

On September 9-10, Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization

Mustafa Ali will participate at EPA's Environmental Justice Academy, to encourage collaborative problem solving with community-based organizations, local government, small businesses, academic institutions and industry. Region 4 Acting Administrator Anne Heard will also provide remarks. Open Press, Atlanta, GA.

On September 9-10, Region 9 Acting Administrator Alexis Strauss is scheduled to attend the annual Nevada Mining Association conference. On September 10, she will provide remarks on "An EPA Perspective of Sustainability and Air, Water and Waste Management." Governor Brian Sandoval (R-NV) is also expected to speak later that day at an awards ceremony. Open Press, South Lake Tahoe, NV.

On September 12, Acting Assistant Administrator for Air and Radiation Janet McCabe will speak to the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) about indoor air quality. Open Press, Alexandria, VA.

On September 13, Region 8 Administrator Shaun McGrath will participate in a quarterly meeting with Colorado Oil and Gas Association. Closed Press, Denver, CO.

On September 14, Senior Advisor Cameron Davis will provide an update to Great Lakes delegation members on the status of Asian carp prevention efforts under the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, along with speakers from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, foundations, barge operators, and environmental organizations. Closed Press, Washington, DC.

On September 14-15, Director of the Office of Children's Health Protection Ruth Etzel will speak at the 8th INCHES Conference in Barcelona, Spain. On September 14, Dr. Etzel will chair a session on epidemiological longitudinal studies of child health and the environment and deliver a presentation titled "Global Risks to Child Health." On September 15, Dr. Etzel will chair a poster session. Open Press, Barcelona, Spain.

On September 14-15, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Jim Jones will participate in an annual meeting with his headquarters and regional division directors to discuss priorities and key issues related to program implementation. Closed Press, New York, NY.

On September 14, Assistant Administrator for Land and Emergency Management Mathy Stanislaus will speak on a panel at the Social Capital Markets Conference (SoCAP 2016). Assistant Administrator Stanislaus will discuss EPA's Sustainable Materials Management program and the G7 Alliance on Resource Efficiency. Open Press, San Francisco, CA.

On September 14, Region 3 Administrator Shawn Garvin will welcome the local community to the EPA-facilitated Newport News Forum, co-led by Mayor McKinley Price (Independent – Newport News, VA). This forum consists of state and federal agencies, and non-profit organizations, who will gather together to discuss local concerns, including climate change, climate resilience, and economic development. Open Press, Newport News, VA.

On September 15, General Counsel Avi Garbow will give remarks at a dinner hosted by the Environmental Law Institute (ELI). His remarks will address current agency priorities and emphasize the importance of external engagement. Closed Press, Seattle, WA.

On September 15-16, Principal Deputy Assistant Administrator for International and Tribal Affairs Jane Nishida will represent EPA at the “Our Ocean 2016” conference where she will join EPA partner countries in announcing new collaborative efforts under the Trash-Free Waters Program. Closed Press, Washington, DC.

On September 15-17, Region 4 Acting Administrator Anne Heard will attend the Congressional Black Caucus’ (CBC) Annual Legislative Conference. During the conference, Acting Regional Administrator Heard will speak with members of the Region 4 congressional delegation that are part of the CBC. Open Press, Washington, DC.

On September 16, General Counsel Avi Garbow will visit the University of Washington School Of Law to meet with Dean Kellye Testy, faculty members, and law students to discuss the law school’s growing environmental law program. Open Press, Seattle, WA.

On September 16, General Counsel Avi Garbow will give remarks at a luncheon co-hosted by the Environmental Law Institute (ELI) Leadership Council and the American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEL). His remarks will focus upon agency priorities, recent updates, and highlight the continued engagement between the agency and the private bar. Open Press, Seattle, WA.

On September 16, Region 1 Administrator Curt Spalding will participate in a press event announcing the 2016 Southern New England Estuary Program grant winners. Open Press, Bristol, RI.

On September 18, Region 2 Administrator Judith Enck will provide the keynote address at the Harbor School Student Leadership Summit. Open Press, Roosevelt Island, NY.

On September 19, Deputy Region 2 Administrator Catherine McCabe will join Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-NJ) on an annual tour of the Superfund sites in his district.

On September 19, Region 8 Administrator Shaun McGrath will attend the North Central/Inter-Mountain West Regional Clean Energy Innovation Summit with the Colorado Energy Research Collaboratory – a joint initiative between the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University and the University of Colorado. Closed Press, Boulder, CO.

Weeks Ahead – Presidential and Department/Agency Priorities

In early September, EPA will issue a *Federal Register* notice proposing action on Imperial Valley, California’s plan for attaining the 2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} standard. The plan includes a demonstration that the area would have attained the standard in 2012 but for emissions

emanating from Mexico.

As early as September 9, EPA is preparing to release the final Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment of Trimethylbenzenes (TMBs). This assessment addresses the potential non-cancer human health effects from subchronic and chronic exposure to TMBs. The final assessment includes estimates of the concentration of TMBs that is not likely to present harmful health effects if inhaled or ingested daily. The assessment concludes that there is inadequate information to assess the cancer-causing potential of these chemicals. TMBs are volatile hydrocarbons, and humans are thus exposed to these isomers primarily through breathing air containing TMB vapors, although ingestion through food or drinking water is also possible.

As early as September 9, EPA plans to issue a proposed rule for the Uniform National Discharge Standards for Vessels of the Armed Forces – Phase II Batch Two. The proposed rule, developed in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Defense, proposes discharge performance standards for 11 discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel of the Armed Forces into the navigable waters of the United States, the territorial seas, and the contiguous zone. If implemented as proposed, the discharge performance standards would reduce the adverse environmental impacts associated with the vessel discharges, stimulate the development of improved vessel pollution control devices, and advance the development of environmentally sound vessels of the Armed Forces.

By September 12, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services will publish a draft Clean Air Act title V permit containing amendments to Schiller Station's SO₂ emission rate for its coal fired utility boilers. The permit amendment is in response to EPA's July 2015 Schiller Station title V Petition Order. In the Order, EPA found NH DES did not provide an adequate record on how it addressed a SIP-approved interstate air pollution provision found in the state's permitting regulations. The Petition, brought before EPA by the Sierra Club, claimed the title V permit issued by NH DES was deficient in its stringency of emission limits for SO₂, PM_{2.5}, condensable PM, and contained inadequate monitoring to ensure compliance with PM emission limits. EPA's Order granted only the one claim concerning SO₂, and denied all other claims.

As early September 12, EPA plans to issue a final rule to retain, without revision, the national ambient air quality standards for lead.

As early as September 12, EPA plans to issue a final rule that provides general permits for use in Indian country (under the Federal Indian Country Minor NSR rule) for new or modified minor sources in the following six source categories: (1) concrete batch plants; (2) boilers and emergency engines; (3) stationary spark ignition engines; (4) stationary compression ignition engines; (5) graphic arts and printing operations; and (6) sawmill facilities.

As early as September 12, EPA plans to issue a final control technique guideline (CTG) that would apply to existing sources in the production and processing segment of the oil and natural gas industry located in ozone Moderate (and above) nonattainment areas and states in the Ozone Transport Region. The CTG finalizes reasonably available control technology recommendations for limiting volatile organic compound emissions from storage vessels, pneumatic pumps,

pneumatic controllers and compressors and for finding and repairing leaks from fugitive emission sources.

As early as September 12, pending the completion of interagency review, EPA plans to issue a final rule for the treatment of air quality data influenced by exceptional events. The rule is intended to improve the exceptional events implementation process as well as add clarity for air agencies and the EPA Regional offices. In addition, the rule also announces the availability of the final version of the non-binding guidance document, *Guidance on the Preparation of Exceptional Events Demonstrations for Wildfire Events that May Influence Ozone Concentrations*, which applies the rule revisions to wildfire events that could influence monitored ozone concentrations.

As early as September 12, EPA plans to issue a proposed rule titled, “Renewables Enhancement and Growth Support Rule,” under the Renewable Fuel Standard program. The agency is proposing to update its renewable fuels and other fuels regulations to reflect changes in the marketplace that we anticipate will enable the market to grow the use of both ethanol fuels (conventional and advanced) and non-ethanol advanced and cellulosic biofuels.

As early as September 13, EPA anticipates posting the final Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) assessment of ammonia (noncancer inhalation) on the IRIS online database. Ammonia is used primarily in agricultural fertilizers and can also be found in common household cleaning products. This assessment will replace the 1991 IRIS assessment for ammonia and includes an estimate of the lifetime daily inhalation exposure to ammonia that is not likely to result in harmful health effects.

On September 14, EPA plans to approve the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma application for Treatment as a State for nonpoint source pollution control program funding under the Clean Water Act section 319. Several federal environmental laws authorize EPA to treat eligible federally-recognized Indian tribes in the same manner as a state for implementing and managing certain environmental programs. Federal law also requires EPA to maintain a cooperative agreement with Oklahoma and Tribes with regulatory environmental programs.

On September 14, EPA plans to approve the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma application for Treatment as a State for monitoring and assessment water program funding under the Clean Water Act section 106. Several federal environmental laws authorize EPA to treat eligible federally-recognized Indian tribes in the same manner as a state for implementing and managing certain environmental programs. Federal law also requires EPA to maintain a cooperative agreement with Oklahoma and Tribes with regulatory environmental programs.

On September 14, EPA intends to propose approval for the Oklahoma Infrastructure for the Lead, 2008 Ozone, Nitrogen Dioxide and Sulfur Dioxide National Ambient Air Quality Standards.

On September 15, EPA intends to propose approval of the Reasonable Further Progress plan for the Dallas-Fort Worth Ozone Nonattainment area under the 2008 Ozone Standards.

On September 15, EPA will finalize the designation for the Los Alamos Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. In July, EPA proposed a preliminary determination to designate portions of Los Alamos County as a municipal separate storm sewer system requiring a National Pollutant Elimination System permit for discharges of storm water. The action is part of a petition received from Amigos Bravos, an environmental organization in New Mexico.

As early as September 15, EPA plans to issue a final rule under Clean Water Act section 303(d) to establish a process for tribes to obtain Treatment as a State authority.

In mid-September, EPA plans to propose to approve the South Coast Air District's plan to attain the 1997 ozone standard in the Coachella Valley, California.

In mid-September, EPA expects to issue a notice proposing that the San Joaquin Valley failed to attain the 1997 PM_{2.5} standards by the area's deadline of December 31, 2015. EPA has an obligation to make such a finding within six months of the attainment deadline if we do not grant an extension.

As early as mid-September, EPA intends to deny a petition from the Advocates for the West requesting that EPA re-designate Ada and Canyon Counties in Idaho from unclassifiable/attainment to nonattainment for the 2006 24-hr primary and secondary fine particulate matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (2006 24-hour PM_{2.5} NAAQS), set at 35 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³).

As early as mid-September, EPA expects to issue a draft human health risk assessment for the insecticide malathion for public comment. In the new exposure assessments, EPA found risk exceedances from residential mosquito adulticide use (both via aerial and ground applications), drinking water risk exceedances from use on cherry trees in Washington State, and exceedances from acute aggregate exposure.

As early as mid-September, EPA plans to publish its glyphosate peer review discussion paper ahead of the Scientific Advisory Panel meeting scheduled for October 18-21. During the meeting, the agency will seek feedback from experts on how to interpret glyphosate cancer data and on EPA's evaluation of the carcinogenic potential of glyphosate. The discussion paper will include the agency's proposed classification of glyphosate as not likely to be carcinogenic to humans at doses relevant for human health risk assessment. This finding is in line with recent findings in Australia, Germany, Canada, New Zealand, the European Food Safety Authority, and the Joint Food and Agriculture Organization/World Health Organization Meeting on Pesticide Residues. It is not in line with the International Agency for Research on Cancer's finding.

As early as mid-September, EPA will issue a notice of proposed rulemaking for a Federal Implementation Plan that will regulate volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from existing sources in the oil and natural gas sector that are located on Indian country lands within the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation (U&O Reservation) in the Uinta Basin. The requirements in this proposed FIP are intended to address two concerns: (1) degraded air quality

in the Uinta Basin due to elevated ozone; and (2) regulatory requirements that are inconsistent between Indian country and State of Utah jurisdictions.

During the week of September 12, the following grants will be awarded and Congressional notifications made:

- \$1,199,000-Nonpoint Source Implementation Program, Hawaii Department of Health
- \$1,787,000-WPC State and Interstate Program Support (Section 106), Hawaii Department of Health
- \$1,334,000-Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program, Kansas Department of Health & Environment
- \$30,258,363-Performance Partnership Grants, Maryland Department of the Environment
- \$57,450,000-State Revolving Fund, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
- \$6,500,000-Great Lakes National Program Grants, Wayne County, Michigan Department of Public Services
- \$1,304,460- Hazardous Substances Response Trust Fund, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- \$1,162,781-Water Quality Management Planning (Sections 205(j)(1) & 604(b)), Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Water Quality Management Planning section 604(b)
- \$4,672,300-Leaking Underground Storage Tank Trust Fund Program, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Leaking Underground Storage Tank Corrective
- \$2,301,500-STATE and TRIBAL Underground Storage Tanks Program, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Underground Storage Tank Prevention
- \$52,925,000-State Revolving Fund, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
- \$26,578,000-Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority
- \$7,940,876-Water Infrastructure Grants as Authorized by EPA Appropriations, North American Development Bank (NADB)
- \$2,011,500-Nonpoint Source Implementation Program, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- \$2,500,000-National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance Program (B), Coalition for Sustainable Initiatives

30-60 Day Look-Ahead

As early as September 19, EPA plans to issue a final refrigerant management rule under section 608 of the Clean Air Act. This rule updates existing refrigerant management regulations that apply to ozone-depleting substances and extends them to certain substitute refrigerants such as hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs). Among other provisions, this rule strengthens the leak repair requirements for larger appliances by lowering leak rates and requiring leak inspections when a threshold leak rate is exceeded. The rule will take effect on January 1, 2017, although several of the provisions have delayed compliance dates.

As early as September 19, EPA plans to release the National Port Strategy Assessment. EPA

developed this study to update its understanding of current and future diesel emissions in port areas. This study explores the potential of a range of available strategies to reduce diesel emissions from port-related activity, including reducing emissions from diesel trucks, locomotives, cargo handling equipment, harbor craft, and ocean-going vessels.

As early as September 19, EPA will publish the document, “Technologies for Legionella Control: Scientific Literature Review,” which will summarize treatment technologies that could be used to reduce Legionella bacteria in building water systems.

On September 20, EPA plans to release for public comment its proposed plan to clean up hazardous materials, including dioxins and furans, at the San Jacinto River Waste Pits Site in Harris County, Texas. The proposed plan presents a summary of the risks associated with the hazardous substances at the site, a summary of remedial alternatives, and the Preferred Remedy to address the contamination at the site. The public comment period will be open for 60 days. EPA will hold a public meeting in Harris County to discuss the Preferred Remedy with the community on October 6, 2016.

On September 20, Region 7 Administrator Mark Hague is scheduled to attend EPA’s Region 7 Drinking Water Community Roundtable. Closed Press, Kansas City, MO.

On September 21, Region 7 Administrator Mark Hague is scheduled to attend the Federal Executive Board’s Unity Day. Open Press, Kansas City, MO.

On September 22, Region 4 Acting Administrator Anne Heard will participate in EPA’s Region 4 Drinking Water Community Roundtable. The focus of the roundtable is to gather feedback from environmental justice communities on drinking water concerns, to develop a national action plan for drinking water. Closed Press, Atlanta, GA.

On September 22, EPA will issue a renewal storm water discharge permit for the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico. The permit covers discharges from 400 storm water runoff discharge sites that run into the Rio Grande Basin, primarily designated for livestock watering, wildlife habitat, and marginal warm water aquatic life. The renewal permit retains the requirement that applicable Best Management Practices be installed at every site. The permit was petitioned by a group of environmental organizations in New Mexico.

On September 23, Region 8 Administrator Shaun McGrath will meet with District Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Colonel John Henderson, to discuss topics of mutual interest. Closed Press, Omaha, NE.

As early as September 23, EPA anticipates releasing the draft Toxicological Review of Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine (RDX) for external peer review and comment by the Science Advisory Board Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee. The draft includes an updated oral reference dose and a carcinogenicity assessment. RDX is used primarily as a military explosive and is produced at Army ammunition plants.

On September 25-29, several senior leaders, including Acting Deputy Administrator Meiburg, Assistant Administrators, and Regional Administrators will attend the Environmental Council of the States Fall 2016 Meeting. Closed Press, Wheeling, WV.

On September 26, Region 2 Administrator Judith Enck will speak at a press event at Braddock Bay with Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY). Open Press, Rochester, NY.

As early as September 26, EPA will issue an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking requesting public comment on the establishment of federal baseline water quality standards (WQS) under the Clean Water Act for reservation waters that currently do not have EPA-approved WQS.

On September 27, Region 6 Administrator Ron Curry is scheduled to speak at the New Mexico Recycling & Solid Waste Conference. Administrator Curry will talk about the national perspective of EPA work and how it relates to recycling, solid waste, and pollution prevention in the Region 6 states. Closed Press, Albuquerque, NM.

On September 28, EPA plans to approve the Citizen Potawatomi Nation of Oklahoma rights to administer the water quality standards and certification program under sections 303(c) and 401 of the Clean Water Act. EPA will provide an opportunity for public comment on the Nation's assertion of authority to regulate surface water quality under CWA sections 303(c) and 401 within the lands identified in the Nation's TAS application. Federal law also requires EPA to maintain a cooperative agreement with Oklahoma and Tribes with regulatory environmental programs.

By September 30, EPA expects to announce Records of Decision for the Vestal 1-1 OU2, Pohatcong Valley OU3, KilTone, Kentucky Avenue Wellfield, Standard Chlorine, Unimatic, Hormigas, Vineland Chemical, and the Route 561 Dump Superfund sites.

In late September, EPA expects to approve a Clean Data Determination for the Mariposa County, CA and San Luis Obispo County, CA nonattainment areas for the 2008 8-hour ozone standard.

As early as late September, EPA plans to finalize revisions to the public notice provisions for the New Source Review, title V and Outer Continental Shelf permit programs of the Clean Air Act. This action removes the mandatory requirement to provide public notice of a draft permit through publication in a newspaper and instead allows for electronic noticing ("e-notice").

As early as late September, EPA intends to grant reconsideration of certain aspects of its Refinery Sector Rule promulgated on December 1, 2015. This action seeks public comment on issues including the work practice standards for pressure relief devices and emergency flaring. This action will also propose a technical correction to amend the provisions related to overlap of equipment leak regulations that was raised in one of the petitions for reconsideration.

As early as late September, EPA plans to announce the expansion of the Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program to include the Our Nation's Energy Future (ONE Future) Emissions

Intensity Commitment Option. The Methane Challenge Program builds upon the Natural Gas STAR Program, calling on U.S. oil and gas companies to make specific and transparent commitments to address methane emissions from their operations. With the finalization of the ONE Future Commitment, companies interested in joining Methane Challenge now have a second option to reduce methane emissions from their operations in addition to the existing Best Management Practice (BMP) Commitment. The ONE Future option is based on an industry-led partnership formed in 2014 with a goal of reducing methane emissions associated with the U.S. onshore natural gas value chain to 1% or less by 2025.

As early as late September, EPA expects to announce the availability of a Request for Applications for a new cooperative agreement to support a Funding Distribution Program for Pesticide Safety Education Programs (PSEPs). PSEPs provide training and education on how to safely use restricted use pesticides and generally are administered by State Cooperative Extension Services at Land Grant Universities. PSEPs will play a vital role in communicating with the pesticide applicator community the upcoming changes to the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard and the Applicator Certification regulations.

As early as late September, EPA anticipates posting the final report “Updates to the Demographic and Spatial Allocation Models to Produce Integrated Climate and Land Use Scenarios (ICLUS) Version 2.” The ICLUS tool models population, residential development, and impervious surface cover changes by decade to the year 2100 consistent with four global carbon emissions storylines and a baseline. The second version includes updated population and land use data sets and addresses limitations identified in ICLUS Version 1 in both the migration and spatial allocation models.

As early as late September, EPA plans to announce a Memoranda of Understanding for Permitting Offshore Aquaculture Activities in Federal Waters of the Gulf of Mexico. The MOU establishes a cooperative agreement amongst seven agencies – EPA, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – and reflects a shared commitment to streamline the permitting process for marine aquaculture operations in federal waters of the Gulf of Mexico.

In September, EPA will finalize the Prevention of Significant Deterioration permit for the McElmo Creek Unit Oil Production facility. The facility consists of an oilfield and gas compression plant, located within the Four Corners area on the Navajo Nation Reservation.

As early as early October, EPA will announce a long-term planning stormwater framework, and provide technical assistance to three or four communities.

In early October, EPA expects to publish the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Implementation Interim Final Rule. The rule provides the administrative framework for the implementation of the WIFIA program, a newly created infrastructure finance program that will provide direct loans and guarantees for needed infrastructure projects.

On October 11, Region 2 Administrator Judith Enck will speak at an EPA/Syracuse University symposium on Citizen Science and Trash Free Waters. Open Press, Syracuse, NY.

On October 18, Region 7 Administrator Mark Hague is scheduled to attend the Regional Tribal Operations Committee Meeting. Closed Press, Winnebago, NE.

By the end of October, EPA plans to issue an updated Pesticide General Permit (PGP), establishing technology-based and water quality-based effluent limitations for the application of pesticides to waters of the United States.

In October, EPA plans to propose a draft general permit for gasoline dispensing facilities on tribal lands in California, consistent with the state's requirements applicable to gas stations. This action will allow for a streamlined permitting process that takes into consideration the unique air quality conditions of California.

Throughout the fall, EPA is conducting a Safer Choice "Back to School" outreach campaign to remind institutional and consumer purchasers to look for EPA's Safer Choice label. Using cleaning products with safer chemical ingredients can help schools maintain a healthy and safe learning environment, which is important to attendance and academic performance. EPA is using social media and postcards to remind institutional and consumer purchasers to look for EPA's Safer Choice label to find products with ingredients that are safer for schools and communities.

By December 23, EPA will issue a final rule and response to comments for water quality standards submitted by Maine. EPA Region 1 disapproved Maine's human health criteria for toxics in February 2015, and proposed standards in April 2015.